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League of Red Cross Societies

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The League of Red Cross Societies is an international organization comprising the National Societies of the following countries: ALBANIA, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, BULGARIA, CANADA, CHILI, CHINA, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, CUBA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, DANZIG, DENMARK, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EGYPT, ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY, GREAT BRITAIN, GREECE, GUATEMALA, HUNGARY, ICELAND, INDIA, IRAQ, ITALY, JAPAN, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, LUXEMBURG, MEXICO, NETHERLANDS, NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, PANAMA, PARAGUAY, PERSIA, PERU, POLAND, PORTUGAL, ROUMANIA, SALVADOR, SIAM, SOUTH AFRICA, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, TURKEY, UNITED STATES, URUGUAY, VENEZUELA, YUGOSLAVIA.

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XVth INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS CONFERENCE,
Tokyo, October 1934.

The Board of Governors at Tokio

In conformity with the terms of the statutes of the International Red Cross, the XVth International Red Cross Conference at Tokyo will coincide with the XVIth meeting of the Board of Governors of the League. All the national Societies, members of the League, have been requested to nominate, if necessary, one of their delegates to the Conference to replace an absent Governor at the meeting of the Board. It is interesting to note that twelve Governors of the League have decided to go to Tokyo where they will participate in person in the Board's deliberations.

The coincidence of the Conference with the meeting of the Board of Governors does not mean that the latter forms an integral part of the Conference. To simplify matters and to emphasize the consistent spirit of unity of the Red Cross, it was decided at The Hague that the two meetings should be held simultaneously. But the statutes uphold the independence of the three component parts of the International Red Cross (national Societies, International Committee and the League) and leave them altogether free to discuss their own affairs and interests at their respective meetings.

Accordingly, at Tokyo, the Board of Governors will have two duties to discharge. The one will be to appoint the League's delegates to the Conference and to receive for study and give effect to the questions and proposals which may be referred by the Conference to the Board. Its other duty, as organ of the League, will be to examine the various points on the agenda concerning the League's own activities. The agenda anticipate the study, by the Board, of the reports which the Executive Committee and the Secretary General will present to it, and the examination of various questions, the most important of which are:

The collaboration of the League with the International Committee of the Red Cross;

The importance and development of regional conferences;

The extension of the organization and of the activities of the Red Cross in the Far East;

The financial situation of the League.

It will also be necessary for the Board of Governors to proceed to the nomination of three members of the Executive Committee to succeed Sir Arthur Stanley (Great Britain), Senator Ciraolo (Italy), and M. Donker Curtius (Netherlands). It will pass the resolutions and lay down the principles which will govern the action of the League for the next two years.

Judge Payne, Chairman of the Board of Governors, will preside at its meeting. Two of its Vice-Presidents, Colonel Draudt and M. Yamanouchi, will also be present at this meeting which will have a special significance because it will be the first of its kind in a non-European country. The presence at Tokyo of an exceptionally great number of Red Cross delegates from Asia and North and South America to the XVth Conference will enable them to familiarize themselves with the programme and activities of the League in a way which would otherwise have been impossible.

Working in the generously hospitable atmosphere of Japan, the Board of Governors will witness the activities of a Red Cross Society whose peacetime work has been so far-reaching, thanks to the perseverance and devotion of its leaders. This example cannot but confirm the members of the Board and the delegates of the national Red Cross Societies in their conviction that the activities of the League correspond to a single-minded movement, to a need of the civilized world which can no longer dispense with the Red Cross. Celebrating this year the 70th anniversary of its creation, the Red Cross can look back with justifiable pride, because it has given to the world something which has not hitherto existed — the Red Cross spirit; and it is this spirit which animates the League and its Board.

Ernest J. Swift

Delegations to Tokyo.

Since the last issue of the Bulletin appeared, containing a list of the delegates to the XVth International Red Cross Conference, the following additional nominations have been received:

Brazil: Dr. J. A. de Sousa Ferreira, Dr. J. C. de Albuquerque.

Finland: Baron G. Mannerheim.

Great Britain: Dame Rachel Crowdy, RRC., LL.D.

Latvia: Mr. Hans Hunter.

New Zealand: Mr. Harold Large, Mr. Carrington, Miss Thomson.

Philippine Islands: Mr. Samuel F. Gaches.

Salvador: Dr. Alonso V. Velasco.

Switzerland: Mr. E. de Bergengren.

United States: Mrs. August Belmont, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Gould C. Dietz, Mrs. Norma Mack Metz, Mrs. K. F. Bowman, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey E. Clay, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Davidson, Mrs. Marcus Feingold, Mrs. Anna Bissell McCay, Mr. and Mrs. William McCay, Mrs. Samuel Zemurray.

Seventieth Anniversary of the Red Cross.

Three score years and ten have passed since, in August 1864, Henri Dunant presided over the Conference at which was elaborated the famous Geneva Convention guaranteeing the neutrality of sick and wounded in time of war. Then it was that the red cross on a white ground was adopted as emblem, and that the Red Cross became a reality.

Wishing to mark that memorable date, the Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies addressed the following telegram to the International Committee:

"On occasion seventieth anniversary foundation Red Cross, League sends congratulations and good wishes to International Committee to which the Red Cross owes so much of its splendid development throughout the world."

International Junior Exhibition in Peru

The Peruvian Junior Red Cross opened last April its first International Exhibition of Junior Work. The inauguration ceremony was attended by members of the Diplomatic Corps, of the Peruvian Government and of the national Red Cross Society.

The material for the exhibition was supplied by the Junior Red Cross Sections of more than twenty countries, while the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies contributed a quantity of documentation comprising collections of "Material for Editors", specimens of the League BULLETIN, and photographs and charts depicting the progress of the Junior movement throughout the world.

Austria, Belgium, Chili, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Latvia and Norway were represented by magazines, brochures, and propaganda material. Argentina, Brazil, Salvador and Paraguay sent flags and national anthems, and Canada contributed a collection of its magazine and a set of artistic posters. The interschool correspondence albums sent by the Juniors of Hungary, Italy, Japan, Poland, Rumania, Spain and Yugoslavia were greatly admired by visitors to the exhibition, as also were the garments made by the Juniors of the United States for the children of the unemployed. In a special stand was exposed material and documentation relating to the entire range of activities covered by the Junior Red Cross in Peru.

In view of the success attending the exhibition, it has been decided to prolong it indefinitely.

A New Film on Blindness

The Film Production Bureau of the Indian Red Cross Society has produced a new 35 mm. film in three reels, entitled "How to Prevent Blindness", with captions in English, Urdu and Hindi. The length of the film is approximately 3,000 feet, and copies may be purchased for 600 Rupees.

The picture is based on the illustrated pamphlet "Prevention of Blindness in India", published by the Indian Junior Red Cross, and the scenario is as follows:

The story opens with "Good Eyesight—the Birthright of every Child", depicting the blessings of healthy vision. This is followed by scenes bringing home "The Tragedy of Blindness". Then comes the hopeful message: "Blindness is preventible in most cases". Next, the film passes in review the principal causes of blindness in India: trachoma, venereal disease, baby's sore eyes, smallpox, conjunctivitis, quack remedies, deficient diet, accidents, squint and myopia, and indicates simple measures for their prevention. Emphasis is laid on early treatment: "If you notice any disturbance of vision, consult a doctor immediately". The picture concludes with scenes illustrating how good eyesight is the high road to education, an asset in earning a living, and the main gateway to an appreciation of beauty.

The Indian Earthquake

The New Zealand Red Cross Society, which was among the first to respond to the international appeal on behalf of the Bihar earthquake victims with a donation of £280, has since sent a second contribution amounting to £43.16.0. This was turned over to the Viceroy's Fund which has now reached a total of 53,82,608 Rupees.

In its report on the relief operations, the Central Relief Committee in Muzaffarpur, set up by the authorities to co-ordinate the work of the 35 non-official relief organizations engaged in mitigating the distress of the earthquake sufferers, pays the following well-merited tribute to the Red Cross:

"Special mention must be made of the magnificent response from the Red Cross organization, and of their gifts of clothing, blankets, medical stores and tents, which came pouring in in almost embarrassing quantities; without their generous and unstinted assistance, it is doubtful if the misery of the stricken people could have been alleviated to the extent it has been, and no words of appreciation can be too high."

The Polish Floods

The floods which devastated Poland last July were the worst ever experienced by that country. The areas submerged were greater in extent than the territory of Belgium. The regions most affected were the south and south-west provinces. Upwards of 50,000 families were driven from their homes, and scores of people were drowned. It is impossible as yet to estimate the losses in crops and cattle.

The Polish Red Cross lost no time in placing its personnel and relief supplies at the disposal of the authorities in the flooded areas. A central relief committee was set up under the high patronage of the President of the Republic and Marshal Pilsudski, and regional committees were formed in all the large towns in active collaboration with the Red Cross.

The Salvador Hurricane.

The following is a list of the contributions received to date in response to the joint appeal launched by the League of Red Cross Societies and the International Red Cross Committee in June last on behalf of the victims of the Salvador hurricane and flood :

American Red Cross	$12,500	
Ecuadorian Red Cross	7,500	French frs.
Japanese Red Cross	1,000	Yen.
Lithuanian Red Cross	750	French frs.
Mexican Red Cross	1,000	Pesos.
Netherlands Red Cross	2,500	French frs.
Siamese Red Cross	700	» »
Spanish Red Cross	10,000	» »
Turkish Red Crescent	£25	
Venezuelan Red Cross	$200	
Yugoslav Red Cross	5,000	dinars.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

As from October 1st next, the offices of the League of Red Cross Societies will be transferred to the following address:

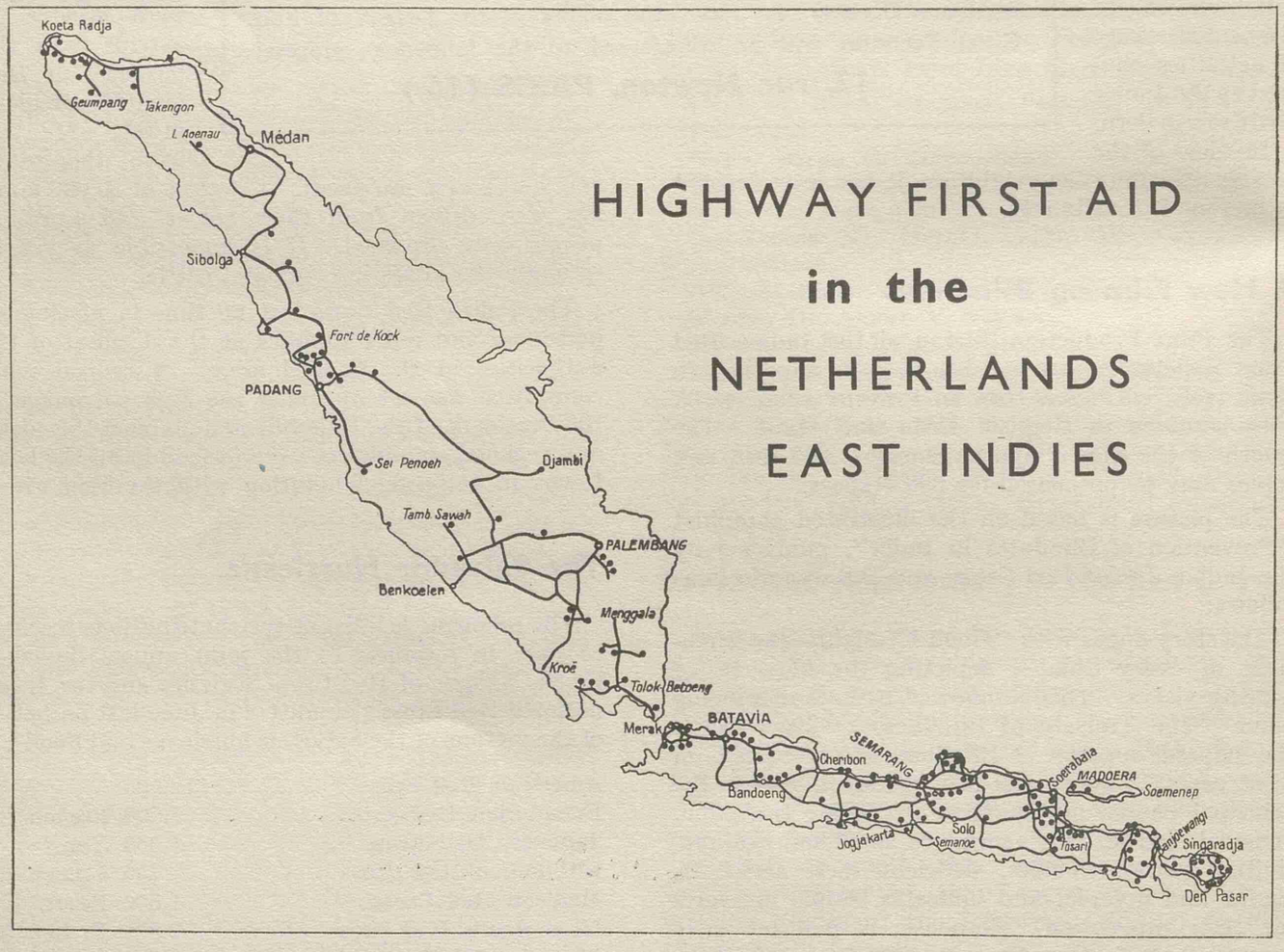
12, rue Newton, PARIS (16e)

Léon Bernard

THE unexpected death of Professor Léon Bernard, in full scientific and social activity, is an irreparable loss not only to France but to the world at large. He was a clinician by instinct and a specialist in tuberculosis by choice. To him medicine was incomplete when it was confined to the hospital and the patient's bed. He was also the apostle of public health and social welfare. Much of the scientific progress made during the last 20 years in the treatment of tuberculosis is due to him. At the Laënnec Hospital he surrounded himself with doctors whom he had taught to recognize and treat this disease, and who will carry on his tradition in every country.

Léon Bernard was the originator of that fine CITÉ DE CLAIRVIVRE where, on discharge from a sanatorium, the tuberculous find conditions of existence which enable them to resume their family and former occupational life without injury to their health. He not only conceived but also brought into existence the system by which the child born of a tuberculous mother may be introduced into one of the colonies of PLACEMENT FAMILIAL DES TOUT-PETITS. He played a considerable part in the development of the French National Committee against Tuberculosis, and of the antituberculosis organization in France. He was Professor of Public Health in the Paris Faculty of Medicine, President of the CONSEIL SUPÉRIEUR D'HYGIÈNE PUBLIQUE, member of the Permanent Committee of the International Office of Public Health and of the Health Committee of the League of Nations, and he contributed generously to the progress of every branch of public health and social welfare in France and in the rest of the world.

It was his constant wish to complete treatment by public health and social welfare measures which brought Léon Bernard into touch with the Red Cross which is indebted to him for three important contributions. The first was his most helpful participation in the Cannes Conference which, as early as 1919, established the plan of action of the national Red Cross Societies in the domain of health. The second was the creation, under the auspices of the League, of the International Union against Tuberculosis, which has infused vigour and new enterprise into the antituberculosis campaign. His third contribution was the advice he so generously gave the League as member of its Medical Council during those early years when the planning of the public health work of the Red Cross required not only exceptional ability, but also vision and judgment. Professor Léon Bernard put these qualities at the service of our cause without stint; and the Red Cross will faithfully cherish the memory of this savant who combined the gifts of a constructive intellect with those of a warm heart.



The first highway first-aid posts in the Netherlands East Indies date from June 1931. Today there are 222 of them, installed for the most part in hospitals, police stations, dispensaries and other medical establishments situated near main roads. The accompanying map shows the topography of the posts. Responsibility for the highway first-aid service is assumed jointly by the Red Cross and the Royal Netherlands East Indies Motor Club.

ARGENTINA

First Aid on Beaches

In accordance with its annual custom, the Argentine Red Cross established first-aid and life-saving posts last summer along the bathing beaches to the north of Buenos Ayres. The following table shows the diversity of the emergencies dealt with:

Injuries to lower limbs	466
Injuries to upper limbs	128
Bruises	68
Head injuries	57
Sun and heat strokes	169
Hæmorrhages	40
Sprains and dislocations	53
Insect and other bites	27
Rescue of drowning persons	8
Drunkenness	25
Lost children	43
Other emergencies	141

Injuries to limbs are due in the main to empty tins and broken bottles strewn about the beaches. Sun and heat strokes are generally caused by protracted exposure to the sun, especially after a heavy meal. The Red Cross posts up notices urging the public to refrain from leaving about objects liable to cause injury to persons using the beaches, and pointing out the dangers of immoderate eating and drinking.

Election of New Central Committee

In the course of the annual general assembly on May 19th last, at Buenos Aires, the governing body of the Argentine Red Cross was reconstituted as follows, for the period 1934-36:

PRESIDENT . . . . Dr. Julio R. Garino.
VICE-PRESIDENT . . . Dr. Nicolàs Lozano.
SECRETARY . . . . . Señora Rosario V. Peñaloza.
TREASURER . . . . . Señora Marie Esther Louton.
ASSISTANT-TREASURER Professor F. Julio Picarel.
MEMBERS: Dr. Miguel Susini, Dr. Horacio B. Varela, Señor Nicolàs B. Moreno, Dr. Eugène Galli, Dr. Luis D. Castellano, Señor Domingo Selva, Vice-Admiral Vicente E. Montes, Señor Carlos R. Gallardo, Señora B. de Hilton Scott, Dr. José Rebizo, Dr. Roberto Repetto, Dr. Carlos A. Bruchmann.

BULGARIA

Royal Appreciation of Junior Tribute

The Junior Red Cross Calendar for the school year 1933-34, which was designed by a pupil of a girls' school in Sofia, contained a portrait of the baby Princess Marie-Louise, and several copies were sent to the Royal Palace. Their Majesties were deeply touched by this tribute, and expressed their appreciation in the following message, addressed to the director of the Bulgarian Junior Red Cross:

"Their Majesties the King and Queen are deeply touched by the charming thought which inspired the Juniors of Bulgaria to decorate their calendar with the portrait of Princess Marie-Louise, and wish to thank them for their kind attention.

"The enclosed photograph of the Princess, signed by Her Majesty the Queen, is intended for the pupil of the Sofia girls' school who designed the cover of the calendar."

COSTA RICA

Annual Report

The year 1933 marked a considerable extension in the field of activities of the Costa Rican Red Cross, and a number of new initiatives were launched. A school for the blind was opened in a wing of the Society's dispensary and is on the way to becoming a veritable national institute for the blind. Alarmed by the increasing number of victims of traffic accidents, the Central Committee of the Costa Rican Red Cross submitted to the Road and Transport authorities a scheme for placing warning signs at dangerous spots, especially in the vicinity of schools and railway lines.

During an epidemic of typhoid fever, the Red Cross organized a health propaganda campaign, and placed a detachment of volunteers at the disposal of the health authorities for the purpose of clearing up the houses and land after the Guanacasta floods. It also provided the public health service with 5,000 quinine tablets to help in combating the outbreak of epidemics after the floods.

GERMANY

Campaign against Tuberculosis

The anti-tuberculosis movement in Germany is half a century old. Since its inception, it has enjoyed the active support and collaboration of the Red Cross. As the movement progressed and was adopted more or less as a State responsibility, the rôle of the Red Cross became a secondary one, and the Women's Committees restricted their efforts mainly to preventive work and popular health instruction.

The answers to a questionnaire recently sent by the German Red Cross to fifty women's committees showed that nine committees maintain dispensaries, while 41 are engaged in anti-tuberculosis case work in collaboration with the health and insurance authorities, the latter usually providing the necessary premises while the Red Cross supplies nurses and voluntary aids to assist the doctor in charge of the anti-tuberculosis service. The Red Cross workers visit patients in their homes, and tell the responsible relatives how to look after them and what precautions to take in order to avoid contagion. Some of the committees organize lantern lectures. Others provide food, tonics, bedding and linen to tubercular patients, or find healthy living quarters for them. Three committees advance funds to patients to enable them to build houses of their own, while another owns a house which it lets at a moderate rental to four families one member of which is afflicted with open tuberculosis. Many of the committees send patients to sanatoria.

It is in the rural districts, however, that the work of the Red Cross public health nurses encounters the greatest obstacles. Progress is slow, and it has long been recognized that the distribution of pamphlets fails to yield the desired results; here propaganda must be made by means of the spoken word and practical everyday examples.

GREAT BRITAIN

Red Cross March

The British Red Cross Society has now been provided with a march of its own, composed for its especial benefit by Sir Walford Davies, who succeeded the late Sir Edward Elgar as Master of the King's Musick. The new composition, entitled "The Princess Royal's Red Cross March", will be played at all future inspections of the Society's detachments. Band and pianoforte scores of the march may be obtained from the headquarters of the British Red Cross, and arrangements are being made to have it recorded for the gramophone.

Holiday Camp for Physical Defectives

One hundred children whose physical defects prevent their benefiting by ordinary holiday arrangements are being cared for by the Red Cross at Northwood Park, near Winchester, recently the scene of the National V.A.D. Camp. Fifty children suffering from heart complaints have already enjoyed a fortnight's holiday there, and fifty blind children were received at the Camp, at the beginning of August, for a fortnight's visit.

GREECE

The Red Cross to the Rescue

During the summer months, the long, sandy shore of the Bay of Phalera is invaded every Sunday by swarms of trippers from Athens and the Piræus seeking momentary relief from the heat and fatigues of life in a large city.

In view of the large number of bathing fatalities, the Greek Red Cross decided a short time ago to organize life-saving posts at several points along the shore. That this measure was not superfluous s evident from the fact that, in the course of the five Sundays immediately following the installation of the posts, their intervention was needed in 300 cases.

This initiative has been greatly appreciated by the Government and by the general public, and donations have been sent to the Greek Red Cross to enable it to continue its life-saving work all through the summer.

INDIA

Assam Floods

When floods occurred recently in Assam, the Managing Body of the Indian Red Cross sent a gift of two thousand Rupees to provide relief for the victims. Its example was followed by the Provincial Branches of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, Madras and the United Provinces. The total Red Cross contribution amounted to six thousand Rupees.

NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES

New Committee at Sourabaya

The Netherlands East Indies Red Cross Society has notified the League of the constitution of a new local committee at Sourabaya. Red Cross activities are being rapidly extended in the Netherlands East Indies, and the Society hopes soon to be able to announce the formation of more new committees.

PANAMA

General Activities

The following details are taken from a report prepared by the Secretary-General of the Panama Red Cross on the work of the Society for the month of May, 1934.

The Red Cross ante-natal clinic gave advice and treatment to 257 expectant mothers during that month, and several others were visited in their homes by the public health nurses attached to the clinic. During the same period, 436 infants and toddlers were examined at the Red Cross baby clinic. Distributions of foodstuffs were made to needy families and, between May 15th and 31st, meals were served in the schools to 4,824 children.

The Panama Red Cross is also very active in the campaign against tuberculosis, and attendances at the Society's anti-tuberculosis dispensary average 325 per month.

Election of New Central Committee

At the last general assembly of the Panama Red Cross Society, the central committee was reconstituted as follows:

President	Señora Rosario G. de Arias.
Vice-President . . .	Dr. Roberto Gimenez.
Treasurer	Señor Octavio A. Vallarino.
Secretary-General	Señora Enriqueta R. Morales.

PERSIA

Flood Relief

At the beginning of June last, the region of Golpayegan and the Western provinces of Persia were visited by heavy downpours of rain, followed by hailstorms, which transformed the stream skirting the town of Kum into a rushing torrent. The waters invaded the town, sweeping away some twelve hundred habitations and causing indescribable havoc.

Fortunately the inhabitants had been warned by telegraph of the imminence of the peril and had been able to flee to safety, so that the casualties were restricted to four dead. The material losses, however, are enormous, and it is estimated that 8,000 persons have been reduced to penury through having lost all their belongings.

Immediately news of the disaster reach Teheran, His Imperial Majesty the Shah gave orders that relief measures should be organized without delay, and headed the subscription list with a personal donation of 100,000 Rials.

The Governor of Kum and the members of the local committee of the Red Lion and Sun banded themselves into a Relief Committee under the chairmanship of the Sheik Abdul-Karim, and proceeded to arrange for feeding and sheltering the victims. The Central Committee of the Red Lion and Sun, with the help of the Government, organized other relief committees and launched a nation-wide appeal on behalf of the flood sufferers. So generous was the response that the Society was able to render very effective assistance and to help forward the work of reconstruction. The local committee at Kum purchased 200,000 square metres of land and placed it at the disposal of those who had lost their homes in the disaster.

Further floods have occurred at Tabriz, destroying 1,500 houses, killing 25 of the inhabitants, and causing damage estimated at one and a half million French francs.

POLAND

Polish President reviews Juniors

The regional commission of Junior Red Cross Circles in Warsaw organized on June 17th and 18th last a grand manifestation of members of Warsaw Circles at Spala, the summer residence of the President of the Republic, situated some 60 miles from the capital in the middle of an immense forest.

Over five thousand Juniors arrived at Spala on the evening of June 17th and special arrangements were made to house them for the night. An exhibition of interschool correspondence albums and Junior handiwork was organized in a building adjacent to the presidential palace. On the afternoon of June 18th, the children marched past the President and his wife; each Circle was preceded by its banner, and two Junior bands provided the marching rhythm. Several of the girls were dressed in peasant costume, and this added a picturesque touch to the procession. Minister Kuhn, president of the Central Commission of Polish Junior Red Cross Circles, made a report to the President of the Republic on the present status of Junior organization in Poland, after which the President visited the exhibition and chatted with the children, asking them a number of questions and manifesting the greatest interest in the work of the Junior Red Cross.

SALVADOR

Disaster Relief

When a short time ago, a violent explosion occurred in the port of La Libertad, causing incalculable damage, the Salvadorian Red Cross nurses and doctors were the first to arrive at the scene to care for the injured. A recent issue of the Official Gazette of the Salvador Republic refers in terms of the highest praise to the services rendered by the Society on that occasion. In addition to the medical care provided, the Red Cross also distributed a sum of 3,175 colons among the victims of the catastrophe.

Support for Red Cross Work

The officers and men of the National Guard have decided to contribute towards the Red Cross anti-tuberculosis campaign by relinquishing each month a part of their pay. Their example is being followed by the police force and by postal employees. The importance of this gesture resides not so much in the actual gain it will represent to the Red Cross budget as in the evidence which it gives of the high esteem in which the Society is held by the nation as a whole.

SIAM

Anniversary of the Chulalongkorn Hospital

Her Majesty the Queen Dowager Savang Wadhana, President of the Siamese Red Cross Society, presided over the ceremony in connection with the anniversary of the King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital for the year B. E. 2477. Certificates and prizes were given to successful nurses who completed their training, while toys and useful articles provided by Her Gracious Majesty were distributed to all the inmates of the Hospital.

SPAIN

First Aid on Highways

At one of its recent meetings, the Central Committee of the Spanish Red Cross resolved to establish a uniform plan for the co-ordination of the individual efforts made by the local committees on behalf of victims of road accidents. The existing Red Cross institutions (first-aid posts, dispensaries, etc.), will form the nucleus of the new organization, and will be considered as the principal posts. They will be linked up by secondary posts established at regular intervals along the main highways, in accordance with the resolution of the XIVth International Red Cross Conference and with the recommendations of the Standing International Commission on Highway First Aid. The training of the staff for these posts will be entrusted to certificated Red Cross nurses.

The first-aid chests to equip these posts are divided into two compartments: one containing emergency relief material for use by the person in charge of the post, the other holding medicaments and instruments which may only be used by qualified doctors or nurses.

SWEDEN

Air Ambulance Services

Recently, the Carnegie Hero Foundation in Sweden made some awards for a Red Cross ambulance flight. The report reads as follows:

''On the night of Christmas Day 1933, a pilot and mechanic attached to the Red Cross Boden Ambulance Plane fetched, under extremely difficult conditions, an accidentally shot and very badly injured man from Juoksengi, 130 km. as the crow flies from Boden, and brought him to the Boden hospital. The plane was requisitioned about 9 p.m., and although visibility was extremely bad an immediate start was made. Fog and snow forced the plane to fly low. The goal was however reached without mishap. The patient and a nurse having embarked, the plane returned. Visibility now became so bad that the pilot had to come down far enough for the risk of collision with mountains and trees to be imminent all the time. Having 'danced about' for 35 km., the pilot caught sight of a light, which was found to be the Overtone terminus of the railway from Haparanda. From there on the visibility improved, and the plane arrived at Boden safely with its passengers. The pilot, mechanic, and nurse were all presented with inscribed gold watches, and the pilot also received a grant of money for aeronautical studies abroad''.

SWITZERLAND

Public Health Nursing Courses

The Genevese Section of the Swiss Red Cross is organizing a training course for public health nurses, in collaboration with the Women's School for Social Studies. The course will open in Geneva on October 26th. The training will be given by specially qualified doctors, lawyers and sociologists, and will comprise six weeks' theory and two months' practical work at the Public Health Clinic and the Anti-Tuberculosis Dispensary.

Further details and a complete syllabus of the course may be had on application to the Secretariat of the Ecole d'Etude Sociales Pour Femmes, 6, rue Charles-Bonnet, Geneva.

UNITED STATES

Increased Membership The optimism to which the first results of the annual Red Cross Roll Call gave rise has been fully justified by the statistics of membership enrolment for the year ending June 30th, 1934. In spite of the widespread poverty caused by the continuance of the economic crisis, the United States public has rallied to the Red Cross banner in a most encouraging way. Not only has membership been maintained, but the latest figures actually show an increase of 100,518 members over the previous year. In his announcement to the press, Judge Payne, Chairman of the American Red Cross, pointed out that during the five years of the depression Red Cross membership had decreased by only 7.8 per cent. At the present time, there are 3,802,382 adults enrolled in the United States and its insular possessions.

Juniors Help the Blind The Junior delegates from Syracuse (New York) to this year's National Red Cross Convention in Washington contrived to economize eight dollars on their travelling expenses. With this small capital, they have started a fund for ''The Seeing Eye'', a training school for police dogs and their blind masters. They are being joined in their efforts by the Wacode Club—an organization composed of Juniors who have attended the Convention in former years.

This summer, the Wacode Club is sponsoring the sale of belts made by the blind, the profits being turned over to the ''Seeing Eye'' fund. The club has also pledged its continued interest in a recreational programme for the blind.

First-Aid Training A programme to safeguard the men in the Civilian Conservation Corps camps throughout the country has been launched by the Life Saving and First Aid Service of the American Red Cross. The Red Cross offered its expert training courses in water safety and first aid to the educational director of the camps who approved the courses as part of his campaign in practical training to fit the men for return to employment. Men trained in first aid are given preference in many industries when re-employment begins.

URUGUAY

Red Cross Week Red Cross ''Week'' was celebrated with particular brilliance this year in Uruguay. The Government, which loses no opportunity of manifesting its sympathy for the movement, accorded free postage for all Red Cross letters and packages, while the broadcasting authorities arranged a special Red Cross programme over the air. An advertising concern billed Red Cross posters all over Montevideo free of charge.

The first official manifestation of Red Cross ''Week'' was a visit paid by the members of the Central Committee and by volunteer nurses to the Pereyra Rossell hospital with two complete layettes destined for the first boy and the first girl born at the hospital between May 20th and 27th. The ''Week'' closed with the inauguration of a model dental clinic at Red Cross kindergarten No. 1.

YUGOSLAVIA

Juniors at Work According to the report of the Yugoslav Junior Red Cross for the school year 1933-34, there are now 362,554 children affiliated to the movement, in 3,770 schools. The Health Game is played in about 1,600 of these and physical culture is organized in some 1,800. During the year, 9,000 health lectures were given in the schools. Sixteen courses for Future Mothers were held (attended by 385 girls), fortynine First Aid courses (1,500 pupils), and two Samaritan courses (64 pupils). Eight hundred schools have engaged in inter-school correspondence.

Last summer, 31 Junior Red Cross holiday camps were organized at the seaside and in the mountains for 1,313 children, and a similar number will be established this year. Reports on Junior Red Cross school canteens, received from 600 schools, show that 40,000 children were provided with meals during the year.

Recognizing the importance of manual work from the educational standpoint, the Central Committee organized last summer three manual training courses for teachers at Belgrade, Zagreb and Osijek.

Humanitarian activities were very much to the fore in last year's programme, some 300,000 dinars being expended from Junior Red Cross funds for charitable purposes, and in providing 13,000 needy pupils with school books, garments, footwear, medicines, etc., Collections were organized by Juniors all over the country on behalf of the children of men killed in the Kakanj mining catastrophe.

Annual Report The year 1933 represented a turning point in the life of the Yugoslav Red Cross, for it was on August 19th that a special law was passed investing the Society with a new constitution and greatly enhanced opportunities for expansion. That full advantage was taken of these opportunities is proved by the fact that 120 new committees were formed during the year (bringing the total to 1,318) while the membership has grown from 49,759 in 1932 to 66,333 at the end of 1933.

The economic conditions prevailing in the country have compelled the Yugoslav Red Cross to devote large sums of money to providing relief in different forms; during 1933, close upon one million dinars were expended in this way by the Central and local Committees. With the aid of the Junior Red Cross and of a grant from the Empress Shôken Fund, the Society has collaborated with the ''Save the Children'' Fund in alleviating the sufferings of sick, undernourished and orphaned children.

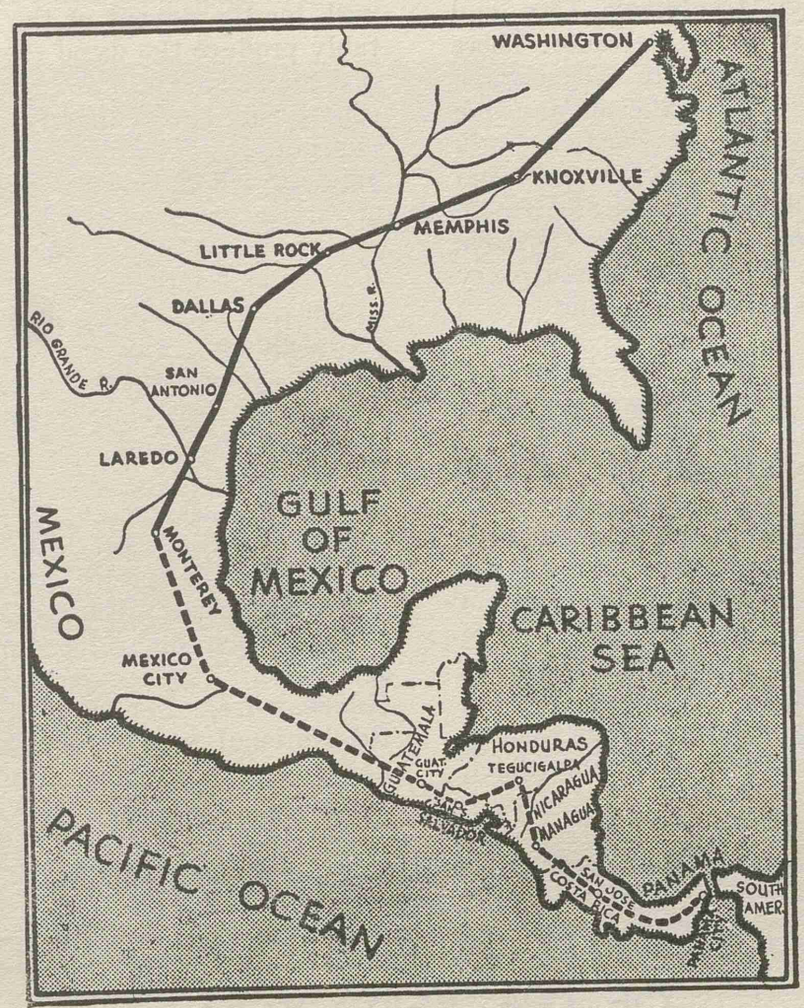
Last year again, floods occurred in the valleys of the Drave and Save rivers, necessitating Red Cross intervention. The Central Committee placed 50,000 dinars and a large quantity of clothing at the disposal of the Ljubljana committee, and several other committees sent gifts. The actual relief operations were carried out by the Red Cross sections of the flooded provinces, in collaboration with the local authorities.

In addition to its courses for Samaritans, the Society instituted courses for Samaritan leaders, while the training of nurses and voluntary aids has been pursued actively.

A TRANSCONTINENTAL HIGHWAY FOR AMERICA

THE Red Cross, which has done so much in late years to make the world's highways safe for motorists—as well as for those employing less rapid means of locomotion—now sees a new vista of service opening up before it with the laying of a great international road linking the U. S. A. with the Panama Canal.

The project was first mooted in 1923 at the Fifth International Conference of American States (Santiago de Chile), when it was resolved to call a congress to study the question. Two years later, the first Pan-American Highway Congress met in Buenos Aires and recommended "the rapid and urgent development of continental highways of the greatest possible efficiency". In 1928, the Sixth International Conference of American States passed a resolution approving the construction of one highway connecting the United States with all the other republics of the American continent, and urging that member Governments of the nations along the proposed route should join in making the project a reality.



Map showing Itinerary of the proposed Route.

In a speech to Congress, Mr. Calvin Coolidge (then President of the United States) declared: "Assistance should be given to any project for a highway designed to connect all countries on this hemisphere and thus facilitate intercourse and closer relations among them". This view was shared by his hearers and, in 1930, the United States Congress voted a credit of $50,000 to enable the Secretary of State to co-operate with the other interested Governments in making the necessary surveys.

Applications for such co-operation were soon received from the Governments of Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Panama. No request was filed from El Salvador, as adequate roads had already been constructed along the general route proposed for the highway. In the case of Mexico, more than half of the suggested route had either been completed or was being laid.

On their way home from the Second Pan-American Highway Congress in Rio de Janeiro (1929), delegates of the Central-American countries and the United States broke their journey at Panama to meet in an Inter-American Highway Conference, where it was resolved to constitute an Inter-American Highway Commission, formed of representatives of the above-mentioned republics. An office was set up in Panama, with the co-operation of the Panama Government, which voted a credit of $20,000 to be used in carrying out the Commission's plans.

On July 1st, 1930, three American engineers were assigned by the Bureau of Public Roads in Washington to make a survey in Central America and Panama on behalf of the Inter-American Highway Commission. During the three years that followed, the engineers and their assistants worked their way steadily through Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala, covering a distance of some 1,400 miles, exclusive of the 800 miles of completed highway in Mexico and the 200 miles of road in El Salvador.

When finished, the Inter-American Highway will represent one of the most remarkable road-building feats ever attempted, as well as something spectacularly unique from the tourist's point of view, for it will take in its stride wild rocky gorges, deep ravines, dense forests, mountain passes, rushing torrents and vast pampas-covered plains. At certain points,

the road will reach an elevation of 8,000 feet.

The section from Washington (on the Atlantic seaboard) to Nuevo Laredo (on the Mexican border)—a distance of 1,250 miles—is already completed, and plans for the remaining stretch of 1,900 miles between Laredo and Panama City have been drawn up. It is estimated that some $50,000,000 will be needed to complete the work. The full itinerary of the road will be as follows: Washington, Knoxville, Memphis, Little Rock, Dallas, San Antonio (in U. S. territory); Nuevo Laredo, Monterey, Mexico City, Oaxaca and Malacatan (in Mexican territory); Guatemala City and along the Pacific Coast to San Salvador. There the road will strike inland to Tegucigalpa (Honduras) and rejoin the Pacific at Managua (Nicaragua). Still hugging the Pacific, it will pass through San José (Costa Rica) and wend its way to Panama City via El Volcan, David, Santiago and Penonome. Wherever possible use will be made of existing roads, and every effort is being made to combine utility with picturesqueness.

Local materials will provide the surfacing, which ranges from excavation and gravel to waterbound macadam. A modern surface on each national section of roadway has been recommended to the Governments concerned. A maximum gradient of seven percent is advocated, except in cases where the steeper gradient of existing roads has been found satisfactory. Curves will be restricted to 124 feet, and the average width of the road will be 28 feet including paths for pedestrians.

More than half the population of the Central American Republics resides in the areas which is to traverse. A general drift towards the thoroughfare is anticipated, and this should make for economic wellbeing. The far-reaching effect on tourist traffic of such a highway as this, equipped with all facilities for motor traffic, is easy to imagine. A skilfully constructed motor road, conveniently wide and absolutely safe, wandering across lowlands and up the sides of mountains amid entrancing tropical and subtropical scenery, should prove a magnet to all motorists.

The increase in tourist traffic will undoubtedly be a boon to the inhabitants in many ways, but there is a dark side to the picture as well, for the advent of the motorist will inevitably produce the usual crop of road accidents, and the most skilful of engineers is powerless to counteract the unhappy effects of human imprudence. The responsibility of the road-builders will have ceased when the last drop of tar has been poured on the Inter-American Highway, and it will then be the task of the touring associations and of the Red Cross to watch over the safety of those using the new thoroughfare. This can only be achieved by setting up permanent first-aid posts at regular and reasonably close intervals all along the road from Washington to Panama City, and having someone constantly available in each of them to rush to the aid of the victims when accidents occur. Acting on the principle that "Prevention is better than Cure", the Red Cross Societies of Europe are working out in advance their plan of campaign to ensure the safety of the projected Transcontinental Highway from London to Constantinople, and the National Societies of Central America are no doubt considering similar action.

WHAT THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA THINKS OF THE RED CROSS

Speaking over the national network of the Canadian Radio Broadcasting Commission recently, H.E. The Earl of Bessborough, Governor-General of Canada, paid the following remarkable tribute to the Red Cross movement:

"Both as His Majesty's personal Representative in Canada, and as President of the Canadian Red Cross, I welcome this opportunity of speaking to the people of Canada about the work of the Red Cross and the place it holds in the world. The moment is an appropriate one. It was at this season of the year that the Red Cross was officially organized seventy years ago.

"Seventy years is not a very long time in the history of the world, and yet in these seventy years the Red Cross has grown into one of the most wonderful associations of men and women and children that the world has ever seen. If occasionally one is inclined to become despondent about our civilization, it is a most comforting thought to realize that the last two generations have seen the growth and extension of the Red Cross into an organized body of kindliness and helpfulness in every corner of the globe.

"This is a new thing in human history. Never before have the people of all races and all creeds discovered an ideal to which they could subscribe without departing in any degree from their religious and political convictions...

"This is the contribution that the Red Cross is making to the world. It brings help and comfort and kindliness to suffering humanity. Under whatever sky the Red Cross emblem is displayed, its significance and its service remain the same...

"I believe that the development of the Red Cross—spectacular as it has been—is not hard to understand. I believe that it has come about because it has provided something that all of us want. That something is an avenue and an opportunity to be of service to our fellow-men".

THE INTERNATIONAL LIFE-SAVING CONGRESS

On entering the main hall of Christiansborg Castle (Copenhagen) just before the opening session of the IVth International Life-Saving and First Aid Congress on June 14th last, I was delighted to recognize several old friends and acquaintances—especially among the Red Cross delegations. Obviously, a meeting to deal with such subjects as rescue of the drowning and relief of accident victims could not fail to interest the Red Cross, and it was hardly surprising to find forty delegates of national Red Cross Societies present at the Congress.

We had no time to exchange more than a word of greeting, however, before the King of Denmark made his entry into the hall—followed by Mr. Bülow, Burgomaster of Copenhagen and President of the Danish Red Cross—and authorized the Minister of the Interior to declare the Congress open.

After short speeches by the representatives of the different Governments, Dr. Fraenkel, Secretary-General of the Congress, described succinctly in five languages the aims of the meeting. His Majesty then retired, after chatting with several of the delegates, and the practical work began.

The labours of the Congress were divided into twelve sections:

Sham Aeroplane Crash Staged by Danish Samaritans.

I. Medical Aid.
II. Training of Samaritans.
III*a*. Organization of First Aid in large factories and industrial undertakings.
III*b*. Organization of Life-Saving Services in towns and villages.
IV. Organization of Life-Saving Services in connexion with motoring accidents and railway catastrophes.
V. Water Safety.
VI. Aerial communications.
VII. The Mining Industry.
VIII. Life-Saving and Fire Rescue.
IX. First Aid in the Mountains.
X. Sports.
XI. Statistics.
XII. History of Life-Saving.

More than 150 lectures were given on these subjects, one or two—of more general interest—during the plenary sessions. Of the latter, that on international disaster relief, given by M. Dronsart, Director-General of the Belgian Red Cross, was particularly appreciated. The orator outlined the mission of the Red Cross, nationally and internationally, in time of disaster, and defined the rôle played by the international Red Cross bodies and the International Relief Union.

Dr. Svendsen described the activities of the Danish Red Cross life-saving stations, and illustrated his remarks with an excellent film, produced by himself, showing how volunteers are trained in water safety and demonstrating Colonel Holgar Nielsen's system of artificial respiration. This film formed the object of special study on the part of the Congress, and practical demonstrations were given of the best methods of artificial respiration. The German delegation, which included Baron von Rotenhan, Secretary-General of the German Red Cross, manifested particular interest in this problem and also in the different types of gas masks shown. Professor Jellinek, the well-known expert on artificial respiration, explained his method, and his contributions to the debate on this subject were extremely enlightening. The delegation of the British Red Cross and Order of St. John gave the Congress the benefit of a long experience in first aid and water safety.

The Egyptian delegates immediately won the hearts of the people of Copenhagen by the courteous terms in which they presented their country's homage to the Danish King and people. Their popularity was even further enhanced when it became known that they had bequeathed to the City of Copenhagen a rare and valuable collection of snakes, scorpions and other reptiles which they had brought with them from Egypt. Something of a sensation was created by Dr. Mahmoud bey Abdel-Razek's report on relief in Egypt in the time of the Pharaohs and at the present day, which showed that an adequate system of first aid existed in Egypt five thousand years ago.

Dr. Raoul Bernard, of Brussels, briefly recapitulated the organization of health in the mercantile marine and wireless medical consultations at sea. He stressed the part played by the League of Red Cross Societies in this field and expressed the hope that it would continue to interest itself in this subject.

The organization of relief in the air and on international highways was also examined, and M. Charlet, Secretary-General of the Standing Committee of the International Air Ambulance Congresses, pointed out the importance of the rôle which the Red Cross was called upon to play in this field, both nationally and internationally.

The "high spot" of the Congress, however, so far as the Red Cross delegates were concerned, was the first aid demonstration given in the courtyard of Christiansborg Castle by the Danish Red Cross Samaritans. Knowing the uncanny skill of the latter in lending a semblance of realism to their exercises, we were prepared for something hair-raising, but the Samaritans surpassed themselves on this occasion. An aeroplane crashing to the earth in flames, the pilot leaping for safety with a parachute that refused to open and meeting a frightful death under our very eyes, pools of blood on the ground, horribly mutilated victims and the echo of their agonized shrieks, composed a scene calculated to freeze the blood of the most hardened first-aid worker!

The Samaritans, the fire brigade and the salvage corps were called out, as if the accident had been genuine and unexpected, and the wounded were cared for and evacuated with the maximum of speed and efficiency. The spectators were so carried away by the realism of the performance that they broke through the barriers in their excitement and invaded the demonstration ground. Before they had had time to recover from their emotion another thrill was staged for them: a motor-car toppled over into the canal in the middle of the town, and the driver then proceeded to demonstrate the most effective method of extricating oneself from such an unenviable situation.

To give the Red Cross delegates present at the Congress an opportunity of establishing personal contact with the leaders of the Danish Red Cross, the President (Mr. Bülow) and the Secretary-General (Mr. Andresen) of that Society organized a special meeting in the course of which Dr. Vogelius, Vice-President, and Col. Fock, President of the Copenhagen Section, gave them an insight into the activities of the Red Cross in Denmark.

That meeting, and the friendly atmosphere in which it was held, will undoubtedly remain for the Red Cross delegates one of the most agreeable memories of their stay in Copenhagen. The general impression carried away by the members of the Congress cannot be better summarized than by the following extract from the report of one of the Red Cross delegates:

"I wish to bear testimony to the efficiency of first aid work in Denmark, which country is undoubtedly in the front of all nations in its care of the suffering and in the steps taken for prevention of accidents, and for the treatment of whose who may sustain accidents."

Carl PETERSÉN,
Director, Relief Division, L. O. R. C. S.

A SUMMARY OF NURSING HISTORY

by Lucy SEYMER.

IV.

THE LAST TWENTY YEARS

In the last decades the development of every branch of nursing has been so rapid all over the world, and so much conditioned by the constant political and social changes, that it cannot yet be easily or finally summarized. Since the war, professional nursing on sound modern lines has been established in many places where formerly there were no schools, and there has been an equally rapid growth in all the special branches of the profession. In view of the overwhelming mass of material, it will only be possible to select for detailed consideration here three main directions in which the advance of professional nursing, taken as a whole, has been in the last twenty years particularly marked. The first is the extraordinary growth of public health nursing everywhere, due in part to post-war conditions and in part to the increasing stress laid on the early detection and prevention of disease rather than on its cure. The second is the tremendous improvement in all educational facilities for nurses, particularly those for post-graduate work. Finally there is the increased intervention of governments in all questions which affect nursing.

In countries where professional nursing had a firm hold before 1914 there has been no unusual increase in the actual number of training schools, but only a normal expansion to keep pace with the rising demand for trained women. Certain other countries, where professional nursing had previously played either no important part or none at all have, since 1918, initiated modern schools. Many of these schools were the result of the work done in the reconstruction period after the war by the American and other Red Cross Societies—e.g., in Poland, Bulgaria, and Greece. In Austria, France, Italy, and some other countries where a few training schools had been established before the war, the increase in their number since 1918 has been very remarkable, and the training of nurses has been energetically taken in hand in countries such as Latvia and Czechoslovakia, which have become political entities since the Armistice. In the Far East the Japanese Red Cross has pursued its policy of fostering nursing education in every way and trains many nurses; and the Red Cross of Siam has been active in the creation of nursing schools. In China the accredited schools numbered over 150 last year.

But it is not by the opening of training schools that this period is specially marked. It is noteworthy above all for the tremendous expansion and development of all the various forms of that branch of nursing which is somewhat loosely called "public health". The reasons for this growth are not difficult to find. The crying needs which arose during and after the war made the training of qualified women imperative. It is difficult to define where the functions of the modern public health nurse begin or end, since she is now doing work that before was not usually done by nurses; but it is undoubtedly the preventive side of public health nursing that has made the greatest strides since the war, although the original "district" nursing has had its due share in the general growth. In certain countries, such as France and Italy, the importance of the functions of public health nurses is emphasized by the provision of special training schools for them, and the institution (in France, Italy, and Belgium) of a special state diploma. In Poland, in Brazil, and elsewhere, public health work is included in the general curriculum for all nurses.

Not only has public health nursing advanced as a whole, but there has been special expansion in certain of its departments which deserves to be noted. Perhaps the most important such development has been in the various types of nursing which handle "maternity and infant welfare". In the movement for providing improved care for mothers and children the part played by the nurse is very significant. There has been a greatly increased demand for midwives, maternity nurses, and workers in the many baby and pre-school age clinics that are now to be found all over the civilized world, and even (thanks to missionary and other endeavour) among native races.

The whole of this movement is surprisingly recent. Although certain clinics existed before this century they were few and far between and the really scientific study of the feeding, care, and mental development of infants and small children is an outcome of the last thirty years. Before the war some work of this kind was done by the Plunket nurses in New Zealand and some

leagues in Europe, but the great expansion is quite modern.

Another interesting development is the trained nurse's ever increasing share in school work. The first nurses were attached to schools in London in 1892 and in New York in 1902 ; but the adequate provision of nurses as an important part of the whole educational system did not come until much later. Later still came the change in the nurse's actual work, from the stage where she merely gave treatment in "minor ailments" and did home visiting, to such preventive activities as testing of vision, giving of health talks, keeping of weight statistics, etc. In some places where conditions do not allow of their whole time employment in schools, school nurses may do other public health work, but every country is now trying to give its school-children the advantage of nursing care.

In the field of "industrial nursing" only a few sporadic attempts to introduce nurses into factories and other commercial activities may be found prior to 1900, and even now this branch of nursing is only on the threshold of its possible expansion. More recent still is the inclusion (in some countries) of nursing among the benefits provided by insurance societies. This is an innovation which may lead to a very great extension of the nurse's sphere of work.

Two other departments of public health nursing which show a tendency to be classed as special groups—Tuberculosis Nursing and venereal disease work—have acquired increased importance since the war, proportionately with the incidence of these diseases. But it should always be borne in mind that, in a great many countries, work of all the kinds mentioned falls to the lot of every public health nurse. A specially interesting development, and one quite in keeping with the modern emphasis on preventive work, is the increasing co-operation of nurses in all mental hygiene schemes. The value of this co-operation was particularly stressed at the International Congress on Mental Hygiene held in Washington in 1930.

In the realm of nursing education there has been an immense advance since the war. Wherever new training schools have been established, theoretical as well as practical teaching is automatically given to every student-nurse. In the matter of text-books, which now exist on every branch of nursing and in many languages, the initiative of publication has in several countries been taken by the National Council of Nurses. In China, for example, the National Association of Nurses has assumed responsibility for the publication, and in most cases for the translation, of many such books. Opportunities for post-graduate experience and training are ever becoming more widely available. Post-graduate instruction is arranged in some countries by the National Association of Nurses, in others by universities and other institutions. In the English-speaking countries, more and more universities are extending academic facilities to nurses. The United States is so far the only country possessing university schools of nursing; there are three of these in America, including one at Yale which is an integral part of the university. In British Columbia and New Zealand for example, combined hospital and university courses are arranged. Some universities, such as Leeds and London, give diplomas for advanced nursing studies; others in Canada and the United States provide courses for public health nurses and also for intending nurse-instructors. International co-operation in the teaching of nurses has been promoted, notably by the Rockefeller Foundation and the League of Red Cross Societies. Finally, all nursing problems have received the consideration of the leaders of the profession in the three international Congresses of nurses held since the war.

The attention given by governments to matters concerning the nursing profession is no longer confined to registration, but has been extended to the improvement of pension and insurance schemes, and to the consideration of such questions as working hours. As regards registration, almost all countries where professional nursing plays an important part have now passed nursing acts. It is significant that whereas only eight countries had adopted registration between 1901 and 1914, nine acts were introduced in the years 1919 and 1920 alone. The provision to be made for nurses on retirement is a matter which, with the increase of general economic difficulties, has assumed more and more importance. The earliest nurses' pension society was the Royal British Pension Fund, started in 1887, but, except in the case of certain government services (notably Army and Navy nurses) there was until recently no proper pension scheme for nurses in most countries. In some cases nurses are included in pension schemes which apply to all workers, but as these schemes are often inadequate this important matter is now receiving the attention of national associations as well as of private societies. In certain countries legislation has recently been passed limiting nurses' working hours, but it is doubtful whether this particular form of government control will be extended.

This brief and necessarily imperfect sketch of recent developments will serve at least to show how vast is the field covered by nursing today, and how splendid are the opportunities which the nursing profession affords.

END.

THE PARTING OF THE WAYS

On July 9th, 1934, at Bedford College for Women, Sir Arthur Stanley, Chairman of the British Red Cross, presided over the annual ceremony of the Presentation of Certificates to students completing the International Courses. We are reproducing below extracts from some of the very fine speeches made on this occasion by Lord Cecil of Chelwood, Mlle Lucie Odier (International Red Cross Committee), and Miss G. E. M. Jebb, Principal of Bedford College for Women.

Lord CECIL of CHELWOOD

"I cannot help feeling that the present ceremony has been extraordinarily impressive. It is indeed a very striking and brilliant example of the best kind of internationalism...

"We are here in two capacities: to render homage to Florence Nightingale, and to establish or assist in establishing a great memorial to her work and to her life...

"In your particular branch of scientific activity—Nursing—you have this international organization where you meet one another, where you are trained in common, and where a great standard of excellence in nursing is gradually being built up throughout the whole world.

"Nursing involves the co-operation of all for the good of all. It was this very international aspect which caused the International Red Cross to be specifically mentioned in the Covenant of the League of Nations, and required all members of the League to give their assistance and support to the efforts of the Red Cross for the improvement of health and the alleviation of suffering.

"The path of progress means international co-operation, not only to prevent war but also to advance learning, to advance civilization, to advance all the higher qualities, or at any rate the expression of the higher qualities, throughout the world...

"Therefore it is that, when I had the invitation to come here this afternoon, it gave me especial pleasure to do so, not only because I hoped to do something to assist the great profession to which you belong, but also because this was one more brick to be placed in the structure of international progress, and it is —as I am absolutely convinced—on the successful erection of that structure that the happiness and the welfare of mankind depends".

Mlle Lucie ODIER

"When the League asked me to speak today at this beautiful ceremony I accepted, because I was very happy to convey to you the hearty greetings of the International Red Cross Committee and its great admiration for the magnificent work created in London by the League of Red Cross Societies...

"Step by step I have followed the extension taken by the International Courses. I applauded with joy the creation of the home in Manchester Square... By its influence, this home added to the professional studies an international education of the greatest value... The nurses had an opportunity to understand each other, to discuss their different problems, to enlarge their outlook...

"In 1924, I learned that a new section for Nurse Administrators and Teachers was added to the Public Health section, and I rejoiced. This departure was a necessity for the numerous countries where the nursing schools had to be improved, and it was the best way to do it...

"The League thought it wiser not to teach a standardized method of nursing, which would perhaps have been unsuitable for many countries, but to give general instruction in the best nursing principles, to develop the sense of judgment in the nurses. In my view, it is the best and most useful instruction which could be given to these international students...

"In the last fourteen years 164 students have received certificates in Public Health and 76 in Administration and Teaching. When one realizes what these 240 nurses have done for their profession and for humanity, one can appreciate the wide sphere of influence of these courses, and the beautiful work accomplished by the League of Red Cross Societies.

"Called to join the International Red Cross Committee, I am now able to follow the different activities of the Red Cross all over the world. This new field of work has drawn me nearer the League and its Nursing Division. In 1931, Mrs. Carter and I were invited to the Nurses' Congress in the Baltic States, and we had the opportunity of visiting several nursing schools and public health centres directed by nurses who had been in London. In these countries and in all the others I have had the privilege to visit lately, I received the most hearty welcome from 'Old Internationals'. I saw them at work and admired their activities, their enthusiasm, their devotion. I remarked that their work is distinguished by perfection of detail as well as by general organization. Their task has not always been easy. After their year of study in London, they return to their country with new ideas but are often met with lack of comprehension or old-fashioned traditions. North, South, East or West, wherever I met 'Old Internationals' they spoke with praise and gratitude of their studies in London which had been so useful to them...

"Finally, in 1932, I had the joy of coming to London myself. On this occasion I saw Bedford College, the College of Nursing and Manchester Square, of which I had heard and dreamt so often. May I tell you that I have not been disappointed? It was even better than I expected...

"In Manchester Square, I was under the charm of its atmosphere, of its international Red Cross spirit. This is the real home. It seems to me that there it is possible to find the solution of many difficult problems of our time. Manchester Square is really an example of what the world could be—happy and progressive—if, on a higher plane, the nations would join together to work practically, without speeches, for the welfare of humanity.

"At the present time, the world needs young forces to supplement the older ones, and the Red Cross must be more active than ever. It is one of the glories of the League of Red Cross Societies to have created these International Courses. It has filled a gap. It has opened the way for the future".

Miss G. E. M. JEBB

"There are, as you know, three sides of this course from which students, I think, draw in different measure different things.

"There is, first, the community life at Manchester Square, that extraordinary establishment where up to twenty nationalities live, apparently in perfect harmony. I think it is a model to the world.

"Then there is the professional part of the training, the instruction supplied with the aid of the College of Nursing, the visits to hospitals, to public health centres, all that widening of experience which comes from seeing how practical work is done in another country.

"Thirdly, there is the academic side of it. The students who join the International Courses are registered students at Bedford College. They join our six hundred or so other students, and they come into contact with people who have got a different point of view because their lives are chiefly spent in study.

"I think it is the combination of those three things in the Course which makes it quite unique of its kind...

"Mademoiselle Odier has spoken of the work of those who have gone through the Course, and I should like to underline that point by telling you something of certain appointments and distinctions which have been achieved by past students.

"First of all, Princess Anna Schwarzenberg, who came from Austria in 1926-27, is the Executive Secretary of the International Council of Nurses.

"Miss Ida Simmons, a British student, who took the course in 1922-23, is Directress of Rural Maternity and Child Welfare for the Straits Settlements.

"Miss Eveline Crothers, again a British student, who took the course in 1930-31, is Organizer of the Provident Schemes for the Queen's Institute of District Nursing.

"Baroness van Hogendorp, who came from the Netherlands in 1923-24, is Superintendent of the District Nursing Association of Amsterdam.

"Madame Denoêl, 1929-30, is Directress of Studies at the School of Nursing of the Red Cross in Paris.

"Frau Oberin Gertrud von Freyhold is Matron of the University Hospital in Berlin.

"Five students of Bulgaria, Finland, Estonia, the Netherlands and Poland are Presidents of their National Nurses' Associations. Four past students have been awarded Rockefeller Foundation Fellowships for study in the United States during the past year.

"I think that list brings out very clearly the fact that we are undoubtedly here training leaders. The total numbers taking this Course are not in all perhaps very large, but they are picked, and there is no doubt that the Course has justified itself in the careers of the students who have taken it...

"We set ourselves out to attain a high standard. We do not accept students for the course unless we think they will attain a satisfactory standard, and I think everybody who has been concerned in the academic side is very satisfied that that standard has been attained."

Before inviting Dame Alicia Lloyd-Still to present the certificates, Sir Arthur Stanley reminded those present that the ceremony was the last dealing with the result of the courses initiated and managed by the League of Red Cross Societies, and moved a vote of thanks to the League for the way in which it had conducted the courses from their very inception. He added:

"They will now pass, as you know, under the management and control of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation. It is interesting to remember that that Foundation has been formed by the meeting of two international bodies: the International Council of Nurses and the League of Red Cross Societies... I do honestly believe that the Foundation which is the result of the co-operation of these two bodies is the finest possible memorial that could ever have been thought of for Florence Nightingale, the founder of nursing."

At the annual dinner of the "Old Internationals" Association which followed the ceremony, Mr. Ernest J. Swift, Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies, was elected an honorary member of the Association.

Loading the Stretcher in the Luggage-Carrier.

FROM TOURING PLANE TO AIR AMBULANCE

By General A. I. CHIRIBOGA,

Member of the Board of Governors, League of Red Cross Societies

In the course of the next few months, two important international meetings will enable the world to judge of the progress made by aviation as a means of transporting the sick. The XVth International Red Cross Conference next month will study the problem from the Red Cross angle, and the Third International Air Ambulance Congress, to be held in June 1935 at Brussels, will doubtless seek inspiration from the resolutions passed at Tokyo.

The League of Red Cross Societies, through its active collaboration with national and international aeronautical associations, has played a pioneer rôle in this matter. Experience has shown that the aeroplane constitutes one of the safest and most rapid means of transporting sick and wounded persons. In many countries, the use of specially-constructed machines, as well as of army and commercial planes capable of conversion into ambulances, has been carefully studied and the rôle of the Red Cross clearly specified.

It must be borne in mind that planes belonging to the big commercial lines are constantly increasing in size, so that the flying costs per kilometer are becoming proportionately higher; this makes the conveyance of a single patient, accompanied by a doctor or a nurse, an expensive matter compared with other means of transport. In time of war, too, the Red Cross is required to work at top pressure and it might find itself short of pilots by the fact of their incorporation into the army air services. In these conditions, the Red Cross would be compelled to rely upon the goodwill of private aviators who might be persuaded to place their touring machines at the disposal of the public in the event of major disasters or other emergencies of a humanitarian character. This raises the question of the utilization of touring planes as air ambulances.

In an attempt to solve the problems arising out of this contingency, the International Aeronautical Federation and the Standing Committee of the International Air Ambulance Congresses got into touch with the Red Cross, and the three organizations appointed delegates to study the question and to draw up practical recommendations as to the manner of ensuring the transportation of sick and injured in time of public disaster, and of doctors and patients in normal times. It was considered essentiel, first of all, to seek to establish agreements with the national aero clubs and the national Red Cross Societies with a view to securing the prompt intervention of private aviators and their machines when required.

Aircraft constructors were urged to co-operate in the scheme by working out some device whereby private planes might be converted, rapidly and without undue manipulation, into air ambulances in case of necessity. Moreover, it was felt that the pilots of such machines should be trained in such a manner as to fit them to undertake the transportation of sick or wounded persons, or to reconnoitre disaster areas. Such training might be entrusted to the Red Cross.

Aeroplanes for this purpose should be designed for easy handling and should be able to land on a very small space, such as a field or meadow in close proximity to a hospital or town. The comfort and safety of the patient are all important, and it is essential that he be embarked without difficulty and that the stretcher should remain comfortably suspended throughout the voyage. The under-carriage of the plane should be well aired without being draughty, and the roar

of the motor should be muted as far as possible. The head of the patient should be above the centre of gravity of the plane, and not far from the pilot if the patient is travelling unaccompanied.

A plane closely corresponding to all these specifications has been evolved by a French constructor and was demonstrated on August 4th last, at the Villacoublay Aerodrome (near Paris), in the presence of Red Cross representatives and other persons interested in air ambulances. A distinctive feature of the machine was the large space reserved for luggage, and the constructor explained that, in the event of the plane being used for the conveyance of invalids, this space could be utilized to take a stretcher. Both in taking off and landing, the stability of the plane was perfect, and the motor was almost inaudible to those inside. A trial flight over Paris convinced me of the qualities of the machine as a medium for the transportation of sick or injured.

The two photographs immediately preceding this article show how the top of the undercarriage opens to admit the stretcher, and how the plane looks when closed.

To examine the problems connected with the use of touring planes as air ambulances, a special committee has been set up consisting of the following members: Major Goodfellow, General Piccio, Major Sillevaerts and M. de Vogel (for the Permanent Federation of Air Ambulance Congresses); M. Robert Charlet, General Cheutin, and Señor A. Mascias (for the Standing Committee of the Air Ambulance Congresses), and the Marquis de Lillers, Mr. Ernest J. Swift and Mr. Petersén (for the League of Red Cross Societies). This committee will meet for the first time in September, 1934, at the headquarters of the League of Red Cross Societies in Paris.

I hope that the impressions outlined above will interest national Red Cross Societies and private aviators, for they serve at least to show that the aircraft constructors are making a genuine effort to solve the problems which still handicap the generalization of air ambulance services. It was a great satisfaction to me to find that, in the matter of actual construction, the solution had been found. It now only remains to be seen what use the humanitarian organizations will make of it.

Touring Plane-Ambulance Ready for Flight.

LEAGUE HEADQUARTERS NOTES

Board of Governors The Red Cross of Panama has notified the League Secretariat of the appointment of Señora Rosario G. de Arias as its representative on the Board of Governors in place of Señora Amelia L. de Alfaro.

Departures for Tokyo Mr. Ernest J. SWIFT, Secretary-General of the League, left Paris on August 23rd for Tokyo. He is travelling via the United States, and will thus have an opportunity of consulting Judge Payne, Chairman of the Board of Governors, en route.

Mr. L. de GIELGUD, Under Secretary-General, left on August 11th, having been requested by the Japanese Red Cross to arrive in Tokyo a month before the opening of the XVth Conference in order to assist in the final preparations for that meeting.

New League Publications The League Secretariat has now issued two further brochures in the series of Suggestions for Red Cross Workers which was inaugurated a few months ago with "ORGANIZING FOR EMERGENCIES". They are entitled "HELPING THE UNEMPLOYED", and "BLOOD TRANSFUSION", and are available in English, French or Spanish.

Specimen copies will be sent in due course to all the National Societies members of the League.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Florence Nightingale Foundation

The International Courses, session 1934-1935, which have been organized in previous years by the League opened on August 15th under the auspices of the Foundation. Ten nurses from Canada (2), Denmark, France, Great Britain, Holland, Norway, South Africa, Turkey and the United States have been registered for the Course for Nurse Administrators and Teachers. Eleven nurses from Bulgaria, Canada (2), Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain (2), Latvia, South Africa (2) have been registered for the Course in Public Health.

International Hospital Association

The International Hospital Association, which is constitued by the National Hospital Associations of sixteen countries, holds its Congresses every two years. Between each Congress, a Finishing Course for Hospital Workers is organized. The second of these courses was held in Switzerland in August 1934, and was attended by 200 hospital workers from twentytwo countries. The League of Red Cross Societies was represented by Dr. René Sand, Technical Counsellor; the Health Section of the League of Nations by Doctors Boudreau and Gautier; the International Council of Nurses by Princess Schwarzenberg; and the International Union against Venereal Disease by Dr. Cavaillon.

The official receptions organized by the Federal, cantonal and municipal authorities in all the places visited showed in what high esteem the International Hospital Association is held by public authorities. The Universities of Basle, Berne and Zurich, as well as the Medical Associations of those towns, were no less cordial in their welcome. The persons attending the Course were greatly impressed by the curative institutions visited at Basle, Zurich, Lucerne, Berne, Leysin, Arosa, Davos, Tarasp and St. Moritz, the organization and installation of which were explained to them in detail.

The fourth International Hospital Congress will be held in Rome from May 6th to 12th, 1935, and will be preceded by visits to hospitals at Milan, Genoa and Florence.

International Pediatric Conference

The Fourth Conference of the International Association of Preventive Pediatrics (Medical Section of the Save the Children International Union) will be held at Lyons on September 27th and 28th, 1934. The subjects to be discussed, and the names of the rapporteurs, are:

1) The Prophylaxy of Malaria in Children (Prof. Cacace, Naples; Prof. Gillot and Dr. Sarrouy, Algiers; Dr. Barclay Barrowman, Federated Malay States).

2) The Prophylaxy of Rickets and Convulsions (Prof. Monrad, Copenhagen; Prof. Rominger, Miel).

Those desiring to attend the Conference, or to take part in the debates, are requested to communicate with the Secretary of the International Association of Preventive Pediatrics, 15, rue Lévrier, Geneva (Switzerland).

International Conference on Rheumatism

The opening of the new thermal baths at Aix-les-Bains on June 28th was marked by the holding of an international congress on chronic rheumatism, attended by some 350 delegates from Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, U. S. A., and from most of the Latin-American republics.

Among the papers contributed were reports by British delegates on vaccinotherapy, anatomical factors, and radiology. To radiologists the occasion was one of particular interest, inasmuch as it was the first time that a paper dealing with the radiological aspect of rheumatism had been read at an international discussion. The interesting observation was made that, by means of a special X-ray examination of the hand, it was possible to say whether an individual would develop rheumatism, and of what nature.

In certain countries of Northern Europe it has been estimated that rheumatism is responsible for a higher proportion of working incapacity than any other disease. It is for this reason that the British Red Cross Society has adopted the campaign against rheumatism as one of the main planks of its peacetime programme.

BOOK REVIEWS

Hilfe als soziologisches Phänomen, by Dr. Dora Peyser. Würzburg, Konrad Trilitsch, 1934, Pp. 90.

Dr. Peyser is a collaborator of Dr. Alice Salomon, the founder of the first German school of social work and of the Social Service Academy. In this study of assistance from the novel standpoint of general sociology, she demonstrates that mutual aid is an essential factor in all human civilizations, and is to be found in each of the groups resulting from bonds of family, neighbourship, religion, profession, etc. The author seeks the inner meaning thereof, analyzes its elements, follows its historical evolution, and shows how the organization of social welfare is handicapped by the sense of individuality which is hostile to rationalization.

''Social work is an undertaking for the construction of the collectivity, and the social worker is a social architect'', says Dr. Alice Salomon.

Dr. Peyser places the Red Cross in the forefront of international social service and judiciously examines the principles and activity of the Red Cross movement.

Der Einfluss der Krise auf Familien beschaftigungsloser Arbeiter in der Cechoslowakischen Republik, by Doctors Robert Kollar, Stanislas Rezny, Necasovà-Poubovà. Social Institute of the Czechoslovak Republic, Prague 1933.

The research section of the Social Institute in Prague was established in 1932, under the chairmanship of Dr. Alice Masarykova, president of the Czechoslovak Red Cross. This section, with the help of a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation and

in collaboration with the Statistical Office and the State Hygiene Institute, recently undertook an exhaustive study of the living conditions in the homes of forty unemployed men. The conclusions have now been published in report form.

The report measures the gradual dwindling of purchasing power, and consequently of food consumption, in the homes of the workless, and analyses the effects not only on the health of the individual but on national economy. The remedies suggested are the abolition of tariff barriers, increase in the purchasing power of the masses, institution of a programme of public works, and reform of the system of labour scholarships, health services and public assistance. "The primary cause of today's deficiencies is bad organization".

Empire Social Hygiene Year-Book 1934. Prepared by the British Social Hygiene Council Inc., George Allen and Unwin, London. Pp. 509.

Part I of this study includes a survey of social hygiene work in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Part II consists of a series of articles on various aspects of social hygiene by distinguished authors.

There is, for example, a most informative article on propaganda methods and results in this field by Mrs. Neville-Rolfe. The constitution of a propaganda film institute and the future of the film in education are discussed by other authors. V.D. administration in Great Britain is described by Colonel L.W. Harrison. Special chapters are devoted to the welfare of the seamen, and a brief account is given of the activities of the League of Red Cross Societies and other bodies in this matter. The appendices include (1) a list of the countries represented on the *Union internationale contre le péril vénérien*, (2) a list of British and international voluntary associations, and (3) a list of books on social hygiene.

THE LEAGUE
OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES

Board of Governors

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Hon. John Barton PAYNE,
(American Red Cross).

Vice-Chairmen:

Col. P. DRAUDT,
(German Red Cross).

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Señor E. J. CONILL,
(Cuban Red Cross).

Mr. S. YAMANOUCHI,
(Japan Red Cross).

Secretary-General

Mr. Ernest J. SWIFT.

Appeals for Funds and Hospital Publicity. A Practical Guide for Hospital and other Charitable Organizations in the Arts of Publicity and the Raising of Funds, by Captain J. E. Stone, M. C., F. S. A. A., F. S. S., F. R. Econ. S. Birmingham, Birbeck, 1934.

The author of this book is one of the world's foremost authorities on hospital economics, and it was in virtue of this fact that he was elected to preside over the Standing Commission on Finance and Accountancy of the International Hospital Association. His earlier treatises on the organization and finances of hospitals have already become classics.

The subject of his latest work is one which interests all philanthropic organizations, and especially the Red Cross. As Sir Arthur Stanley says in his preface: to be really fruitful, appeals for funds must take the form of educational propaganda. Sir Charles Hyde adds that, by dint of judicious management, it is possible to reduce the overhead expenses in connexion with appeals to one per cent of the sums collected.

Mr. Stone's book is precise, methodical, rich in examples and profusely illustrated. It literally teems with useful suggestions. The leaders of all institutions dependent on public generosity would do well to read it and derive inspiration therefrom.

Survey of Public Health Nursing Administration and Practice, by the National Organization for Public Health Nursing, New York. The Commonwealth Fund and Oxford University Press, 1934.

Under the leadership of Miss Katherine Tucker, director general, and Miss Hortense Hilbert, assistant director, the National Organization for Public Health Nursing undertook, in 1931-32, a survey of the methods and efficiency of public health nursing services in the United States. The cost of this survey was assumed by the Commonwealth Fund. It is estimated that 20,000 public health nurses are at work in the U. S. at the present day. The investigation covers 28 towns, villages and counties. In a preface to the report. Dr. Livingston Farrand, President of Cornell University, points out that the principal conclusion to be drawn from the survey is the necessity of making public health nursing services an integral part of a general programme of social work. It is essential to associate private organizations with public services, to establish closer relations between them and the medical profession, and to improve the theoretical and practical training of public health nurses.

The report is a model of precision, impartiality and discernment.

The new Philanthropy. A study of the relations between the statutory and voluntary social services, London. George Allen and Unwin, 1934. Pp. 320.

The author of this treatise—Miss Macadam, an internationally known social worker and Secretary of the British Council of Social Work Schools—was particularly qualified to study the relations existing between public and private social service organizations in England. Not only has she acquitted herself of this task with remarkable competence and subtlety, but she has given an extraordinarily lucid description of the social evolution of Britain, of that "new philanthropy" which, without discouraging private initiative, recognizes the necessity of looking to the public authorities to ensure the most urgent needs of the people.

Memento pratique d'assistance, by Gouachon and Mouret. Lyons 1934. Noirclerc and Fénétrier.

This new publication may be regarded as complementary to the excellent MANUEL PRATIQUE D'ASSISTANCE by the same authors, published in 1926. It covers an extremely wide range of subjects, including: the protection of public health, maternity, childhood and large families; the organization of hospitals, free medical care, and assistance to aged persons and lunatics; the campaign against tuberculosis, cancer and syphilis; the hospitalization of victims of industrial accidents; the protection of war victims; mutual aid, thrift, cheap housing, social insurance, etc.

Le Gérant : B. de Rougé. IMP. UNION, 13, RUE MÉCHAIN, PARIS.